

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are pending in the application. Claims 16-29 are added for consideration of the Examiner. No new matter is inserted into the application.

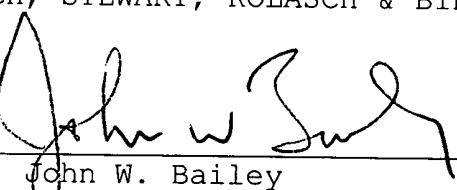
All of the present claims define patentable subject matter such that this application should be placed into condition for allowance. Early and favorable action on the merits of the present application is thereby requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By:


John W. Bailey
Reg. No. 32,881
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
703-205-8000

KLR
JWB/KLR/jao
2520-0120P